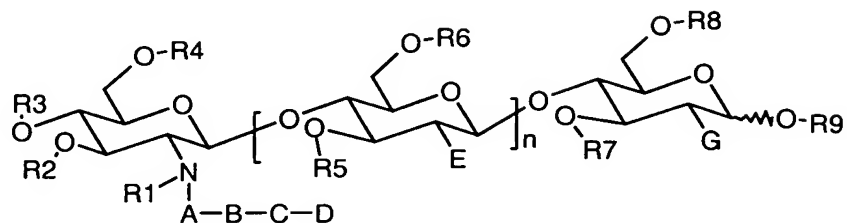


## LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I)



(I)

in which

- $n$  represents 1, 2 or 3;
- $A$  represents a substituent chosen from  $-C(O)-$ ,  $-C(S)-$ ,  $-CH_2-$ ,  $-CHR^{10}-$ ,  $-CR^{10}R^{11}-$ ,  $-C(O)O-$ ,  $-C(O)S-$ ,  $-C(S)O-$ ,  $-C(S)S-$ ,  $-C(O)NH-$ ,  $-C(NH)NH-$  and  $-C(S)NH-$ ;
- $B$  represents
  - an arylene;
  - a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a naphthylene;
  - a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a biphenylene;
  - or a heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

► C represents a substituent chosen from  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-CH_2-$ ,  $-CHR^{17}-$ ,  $-CR^{17}R^{18}-$ ,  $-NH-$  and  $-NR^{19}$ ;

► D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

► E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH,  $OR^{20}$ ,  $NH_2$  and  $NHR^{20}$ ;

►  $R^1$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)H$  and  $C(O)CH_3$ ;

►  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^{14}$ ,  $R^{15}$ ,  $R^{16}$  and  $R^{19}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl and  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

►  $R^4$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl and  $R^{21}$ ;

►  $R^5$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl and  $R^{22}$ ;

►  $R^7$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, arabinosyl and  $R^{23}$ ;

►  $R^8$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$  and  $R^{24}$ ;

►  $R^9$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, mannose, glycerol and  $R^{25}$ ;

►  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{17}$  and  $R^{18}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl and F;

►  $R^{20}$ ,  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$ ,  $R^{24}$  and  $R^{25}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl and  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable, such as lithium, sodium, potassium and tetraalkylammonium salts.

2. (Original) The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents -C(O)- or -CH<sub>2</sub>-;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ C represents -O-;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent NHC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>1</sup> represents H, CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> represent H;
- ▶ R<sup>4</sup> represents H, C(O)CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>8</sup> represents H, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>Li, SO<sub>3</sub>Na, SO<sub>3</sub>K, SO<sub>3</sub>N(C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl)<sub>4</sub>, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

3. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents -C(O)- or -CH<sub>2</sub>-;
- ▶ E and G represent NHC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>1</sup> represents H, CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> represent H;
- ▶ R<sup>4</sup> represents H, C(O)CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>8</sup> represents H, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>Li, SO<sub>3</sub>Na, SO<sub>3</sub>K, SO<sub>3</sub>N(C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl)<sub>4</sub>, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

4. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents -C(O)- or -CH<sub>2</sub>-;

- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H,  $\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

5. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

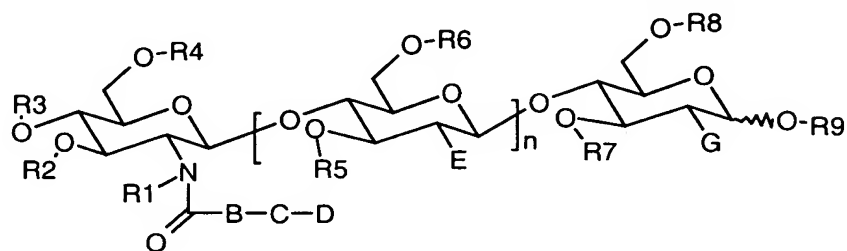
- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents  $-\text{C(O)}-$  or  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ;
- ▶ C represents  $-\text{O}-$ ;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H,  $\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

6. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents  $-\text{C(O)}-$  or  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ C represents  $-\text{O}-$ ;
- ▶ D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;

- $R^1$  represents H,  $\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$ ;
- $R^2, R^3, R^5, R^6, R^7$  and  $R^9$  represent H;
- $R^4$  represents H,  $\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NH}_2$ ;
- $R^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

7. (Original) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ia)



(Ia)

in which

- $n$  represents 1, 2 or 3,
- $B$  represents
  - an arylene;
  - a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a naphthylene;
  - a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a biphenylene;
  - or a heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

► C represents a substituent chosen from -O-, -S-,  $-CH_2-$ ,  $-CHR^{17}-$ ,  $-CR^{17}R^{18}-$ , -NH- or  $-NR^{19}$ ;

► D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

► E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH,  $OR^{20}$ ,  $NH_2$ ,  $NHR^{20}$ ;

►  $R^1$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)H$ , and  $C(O)CH_3$ ;

$R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , and  $R^6$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

►  $R^4$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $R^{21}$ ;

►  $R^5$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl or  $R^{22}$ ;

►  $R^7$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, arabinosyl or  $R^{23}$ ;

►  $R^8$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$  or  $R^{24}$ ;

►  $R^9$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, mannose, glycerol or  $R^{25}$ ;

►  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{17}$  and  $R^{18}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or F;

►  $R^{14}$ ,  $R^{15}$ ,  $R^{16}$  and  $R^{19}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

►  $R^{20}$ ,  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$ ,  $R^{24}$  and  $R^{25}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or

metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable. Among the compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.

8. (Original) The compound of formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 7, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ C represents -O-;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

9. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ia) as claimed in claim 7 or 8, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

10. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ia) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 7 to 9~~ claim 7, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;

- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

11. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ia) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ C represents -O-;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

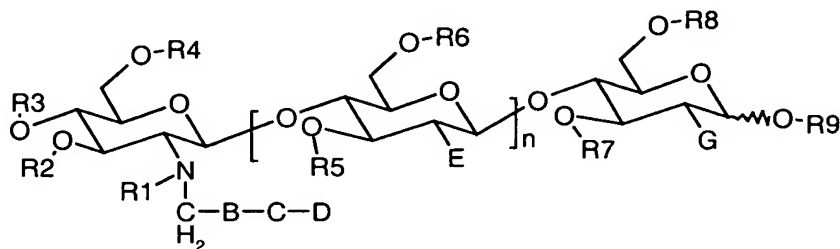
12. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ia) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 7 to 11~~ claim 7, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ C represents -O-;
- ▶ D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;



- $R^4$  represents H,  $C(O)CH_3$  or  $C(O)NH_2$ ;
- $R^8$  represents H,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

13. (Original) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ib)



(Ib)

in which

- $n$  represents 1, 2 or 3,
- $B$  represents
  - an arylene;
  - a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a naphthylene;
  - a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a biphenylene;
  - or a heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

- C represents a substituent chosen from -O-, -S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-, -CHR<sup>17</sup>-, -CR<sup>17</sup>R<sup>18</sup>-, -NH- or -NR<sup>19</sup>;
- D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;
- E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH, OR<sup>20</sup>, NH<sub>2</sub>, NHR<sup>20</sup>;
- R<sup>1</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, C(O)H, and C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>6</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)OC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(S)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(NH)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(O)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;
- R<sup>4</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or R<sup>21</sup>;
- R<sup>5</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, fucosyl or R<sup>22</sup>;
- R<sup>7</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, arabinosyl or R<sup>23</sup>;
- R<sup>8</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>Li, SO<sub>3</sub>Na, SO<sub>3</sub>K, SO<sub>3</sub>N(C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl)<sub>4</sub> or R<sup>24</sup>;
- R<sup>9</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, mannose, glycerol or R<sup>25</sup>;
- R<sup>10</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>17</sup> and R<sup>18</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or F;
- R<sup>14</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup> and R<sup>19</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)OC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(S)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(NH)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(O)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;
- R<sup>20</sup>, R<sup>21</sup>, R<sup>22</sup>, R<sup>23</sup>, R<sup>24</sup> and R<sup>25</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)OC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(S)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(NH)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(O)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable. Among the

compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.

14. (Original) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in claim 13, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ C represents -O-;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

15. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in claim 13 or 14, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

16. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 13 to 15~~ claim 13 simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;

- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N(C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl)}_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

17. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 13 to 16~~ claim 13 simultaneously having the following characteristics:

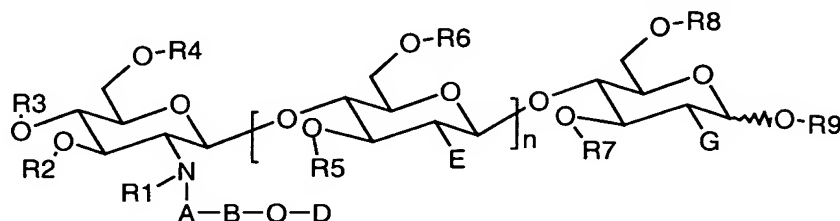
- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ C represents -O-;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N(C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl)}_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

18. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ib) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 13 to 17~~ claim 13 simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ C represents -O-;
- ▶ D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;

►  $R^8$  represents H,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

19. (Original) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ic)



(Ic)

in which

- $n$  represents 1, 2 or 3;
- $A$  represents a substituent chosen from  $-C(O)-$ ,  $-C(S)-$ ,  $-CH_2-$ ,  $-CHR^{10}-$ ,  $-CR^{10}R^{11}-$ ,  $-C(O)O-$ ,  $-C(O)S-$ ,  $-C(S)O-$ ,  $-C(S)S-$ ,  $-C(O)NH-$ ,  $-C(NH)NH-$  or  $-C(S)NH-$ ;
- $B$  represents
  - an arylene;
  - a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a naphthylene;
  - a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a biphenylene;
  - or a heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

► D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

► E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH,  $OR^{20}$ ,  $NH_2$ ,  $NHR^{20}$ ;

►  $R^1$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)H$ , and  $C(O)CH_3$ ;

►  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , and  $R^6$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

►  $R^4$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $R^{21}$ ;

►  $R^5$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl or  $R^{22}$ ;

►  $R^7$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, arabinosyl or  $R^{23}$ ;

►  $R^8$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$  or  $R^{24}$ ;

►  $R^9$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, mannose, glycerol or  $R^{25}$ ;

►  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{17}$  and  $R^{18}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or F;

►  $R^{14}$ ,  $R^{15}$ ,  $R^{16}$  and  $R^{19}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

►  $R^{20}$ ,  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$ ,  $R^{24}$  and  $R^{25}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable. Among the

compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.

20. (Original) The compound of formula (Ic) as claimed in claim 19, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents -C(O)- or -CH<sub>2</sub>-;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent NHC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>1</sup> represents H, CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> represent H;
- ▶ R<sup>4</sup> represents H, C(O)CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>8</sup> represents H, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>Li, SO<sub>3</sub>Na, SO<sub>3</sub>K, SO<sub>3</sub>N(C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl)<sub>4</sub>, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

21. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ic) as claimed in claim 19 or 20, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents -C(O)- or -CH<sub>2</sub>-;
- ▶ E and G represent NHC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>1</sup> represents H, CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> represent H;
- ▶ R<sup>4</sup> represents H, C(O)CH<sub>3</sub> or C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>;
- ▶ R<sup>8</sup> represents H, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>Li, SO<sub>3</sub>Na, SO<sub>3</sub>K, SO<sub>3</sub>N(C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl)<sub>4</sub>, fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

22. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ic) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 19 to 21~~ claim 19, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

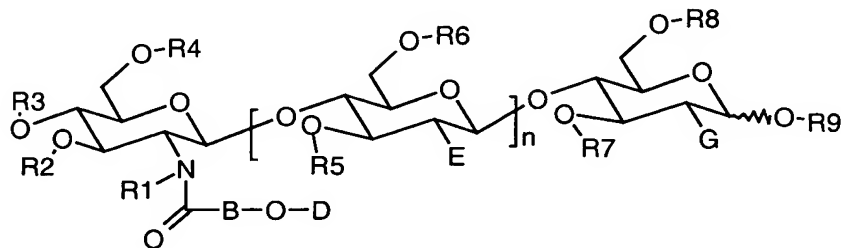
- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ A represents -C(O)- or -CH<sub>2</sub>-;

- D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- $\text{R}^1$  represents H,  $\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

23. The compound of formula (Ic) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 19 to 22~~ claim 19, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- n represents 2 or 3;
- A represents  $-\text{C(O)}-$  or  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ;
- B represents a phenylene;
- D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;
- E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- $\text{R}^1$  represents H,  $\text{CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

24. (Original) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Id)



(Id)



in which

- n represents 1, 2 or 3;
- B represents
  - an arylene;
  - a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a naphthylene;
  - a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a biphenylene;
  - or a heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

► D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;

► E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH,  $OR^{20}$ ,  $NH_2$ ,  $NHR^{20}$ ;

►  $R^1$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)H$ , and  $C(O)CH_3$ ;

►  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , and  $R^6$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

►  $R^4$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $R^{21}$ ;

►  $R^5$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl or  $R^{22}$ ;

►  $R^7$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, arabinosyl or  $R^{23}$ ;

- $R^8$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$  or  $R^{24}$ ;
- $R^9$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, mannose, glycerol or  $R^{25}$ ;
- $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ ,  $R^{17}$  and  $R^{18}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or F;
- $R^{14}$ ,  $R^{15}$ ,  $R^{16}$  and  $R^{19}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;
- $R^{20}$ ,  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$ ,  $R^{24}$  and  $R^{25}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from  $C(O)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)C_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)OC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(O)NH_2$ ,  $-C(S)NH_2$ ,  $-C(NH)NH_2$ ,  $-C(O)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl,  $-C(S)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $-C(NH)NHC_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable. Among the compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.

25. (Original) The compound of formula (Id) as claimed in claim 24, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

- n represents 2 or 3;
- B represents a phenylene;
- D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- E and G represent  $NHC(O)CH_3$ ;
- $R^1$  represents H or  $CH_3$ ;
- $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$  and  $R^9$  represent H;
- $R^4$  represents H,  $C(O)CH_3$  or  $C(O)NH_2$ ;
- $R^8$  represents H,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

26. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Id) as claimed in claim 24 ~~or 25~~, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

27. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Id) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 24 to 26~~ claim 24, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

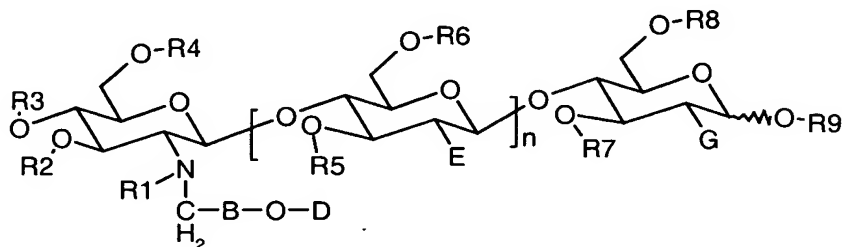
- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

28. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Id) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 24 to 27~~ claim 24, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;

- $R^4$  represents H,  $C(O)CH_3$  or  $C(O)NH_2$ ;
- $R^8$  represents H,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

29. (Original) The compound as claimed in claim 1 and of formula (Ie)



(Ie)

in which

- $n$  represents 1, 2 or 3;
- $B$  represents
  - an arylene;
  - a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a naphthylene;
  - a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each;
  - a divalent radical derived from 2 fused aromatic or heteroaromatic rings containing 5 or 6 atoms each and comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;
  - a biphenylene;
  - or a heterobiphenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

- D represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms;
- E and G represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, OH, OR<sup>20</sup>, NH<sub>2</sub>, NHR<sup>20</sup>;
- R<sup>1</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, C(O)H, and C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>;
- R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>6</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)OC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(S)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(NH)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(O)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;
- R<sup>4</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or R<sup>21</sup>;
- R<sup>5</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, fucosyl or R<sup>22</sup>;
- R<sup>7</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, arabinosyl or R<sup>23</sup>;
- R<sup>8</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>Li, SO<sub>3</sub>Na, SO<sub>3</sub>K, SO<sub>3</sub>N(C<sub>1-8</sub>alkyl)<sub>4</sub> or R<sup>24</sup>;
- R<sup>9</sup> represents a substituent chosen from H, C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, mannose, glycerol or R<sup>25</sup>;
- R<sup>10</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>17</sup> and R<sup>18</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or F;
- R<sup>14</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>16</sup> and R<sup>19</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H or C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)OC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(S)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(NH)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(O)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;
- R<sup>20</sup>, R<sup>21</sup>, R<sup>22</sup>, R<sup>23</sup>, R<sup>24</sup> and R<sup>25</sup> represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from C(O)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)C<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)OC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(S)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(NH)NH<sub>2</sub>, -C(O)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl, -C(S)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl or -C(NH)NHC<sub>1-6</sub>-alkyl;

and also the possible geometrical and/or optical isomers, enantiomers and/or diastereoisomers, tautomers, salts, N-oxides, sulfoxides, sulfones, and metal or metalloid complexes thereof, which are agriculturally acceptable. Among the compounds defined above, the most important compounds are the salts, more particularly the lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium salts.

30. (Original) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in claim 29, having one or other of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ B represents a phenylene;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^5$ ,  $\text{R}^6$ ,  $\text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

31. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in claim 29 ~~or 30~~, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^5$ ,  $\text{R}^6$ ,  $\text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^8$  represents H,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Li}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{K}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{N}(\text{C}_{1-8}\text{alkyl})_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

32. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 29 to 31~~ claim 29, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- ▶ n represents 2 or 3;
- ▶ D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 3 to 17 carbon atoms;
- ▶ E and G represent  $\text{NHC(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^1$  represents H or  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$ ;
- ▶  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^5$ ,  $\text{R}^6$ ,  $\text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^9$  represent H;
- ▶  $\text{R}^4$  represents H,  $\text{C(O)CH}_3$  or  $\text{C(O)NH}_2$ ;

- $R^8$  represents H,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

33. (Currently amended) The compound of formula (Ie) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 29 to 32~~ claim 29, simultaneously having the following characteristics:

- n represents 2 or 3;
- B represents a phenylene;
- D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbons, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbons 4 and 5;
- E and G represent  $NHC(O)CH_3$ ;
- $R^1$  represents H or  $C(O)CH_3$ ;
- $R^2, R^3, R^5, R^6, R^7$  and  $R^9$  represent H;
- $R^4$  represents H,  $C(O)CH_3$  or  $C(O)NH_2$ ;
- $R^8$  represents H,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ , fucosyl or methylfucosyl.

34. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 33~~ claim 1, for which

- B represents
  - a naphthylene;
  - an arylene;
  - a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur; or
  - a heteronaphthylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

35. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 34~~ claim 1, for which

- B represents

- an arylene;
- or a heteroarylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

36. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 35~~ claim 1, for which

► B represents

- a phenylene;
- or a heterophenylene comprising 1 or 2 hetero atoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

these groups possibly being substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $C(O)OR^{14}$ ,  $C(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

37. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 33~~ claim 1, for which

► B represents a substituent chosen from:



|    |  |     |  |     |  |     |  |
|----|--|-----|--|-----|--|-----|--|
| B1 |  | B6  |  | B11 |  | B16 |  |
| B2 |  | B7  |  | B12 |  | B17 |  |
| B3 |  | B8  |  | B13 |  | B18 |  |
| B4 |  | B9  |  | B14 |  | B19 |  |
| B5 |  | B10 |  | B15 |  | B20 |  |

in which  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  represent two substituents chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

38. (Original) The compound as claimed in claim 37, for which B represents a phenylene B1 that may be substituted with one or two substituents  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  chosen, independently of each other, from halogen, CN,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $OR^{14}$ ,  $SR^{14}$ ,  $NR^{15}R^{16}$  and  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

39. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, having one of the following characteristics, taken separately or in combination:

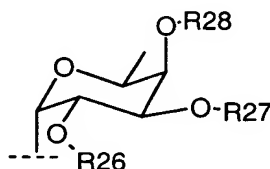
- ▶  $n = 2$  or  $3$ ;
- ▶ A represents  $-C(O)-$  or  $-CH_2-$ ;
- ▶ C represents  $-O-$ ;
- ▶ E and G represent  $NHC(O)CH_3$ ;
- ▶  $R^1$  represents H or  $C(O)CH_3$ ;
- ▶  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ , and  $R^7$  represent a hydrogen atom;

- ▶  $R^4$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C(O)CH_3$  and  $C(O)NH_2$ ;
- ▶  $R^8$  represents a substituent chosen from H, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$  and  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ ;
- ▶  $R^9$  represents a hydrogen atom.

40. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, having all of the following characteristics:

- ▶  $n = 2$  or  $3$ ;
- ▶ A represents  $-C(O)-$  or  $-CH_2-$ ;
- ▶ C represents  $-O-$ ;
- ▶ E and G represent  $NHC(O)CH_3$ ;
- ▶  $R^1$  represents H or  $C(O)CH_3$ ;
- ▶  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ , and  $R^7$  represent a hydrogen atom;
- ▶  $R^4$  represents a substituent chosen from H,  $C(O)CH_3$  or  $C(O)NH_2$ ;
- ▶  $R^8$  represents a substituent chosen from H, fucosyl, methylfucosyl, sulfofucosyl, acetylfucosyl, arabinosyl,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$  or  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ ;
- ▶  $R^9$  represents a hydrogen atom.

41. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, for which  $R^8$  represents H,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$ ,  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$  or a substituent of formula:



in which

- ▶  $R^{26}$  represents a substituent chosen from H and  $CH_3$ ;
- ▶  $R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  represent, independently of each other, a substituent chosen from H,  $C(O)CH_3$ ,  $SO_3H$ ,  $SO_3Li$ ,  $SO_3Na$ ,  $SO_3K$  and  $SO_3N(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4$ .

42. (Original) The compound as claimed in claim 41, for which  $R^{26}$ ,  $R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  represent a hydrogen atom.

43. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, for which D represents a linear, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain containing from 7 to 15 carbon atoms.

44. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, for which D represents a hydrocarbon-based chain according to one of the formulae represented below

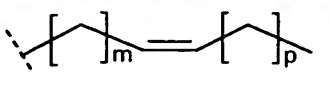
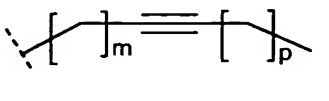
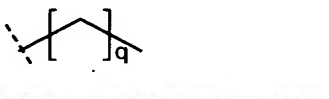
|    |  |    |  |
|----|--|----|--|
| D1 |  | D4 |  |
| D2 |  | D5 |  |
| D3 |  | D6 |  |

in which

- $m = 1$  to  $12$
- $p = 0$  to  $11$
- $q = 6$  to  $14$
- $s = 5$  to  $13$

with  $m+p \leq 12$  and  $m+p \geq 4$ .

45. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 or which D represents a hydrocarbon-based chain according to one of the formulae represented below

|    |  |
|----|--|
| D1 |  |
| D2 |  |
| D3 |  |

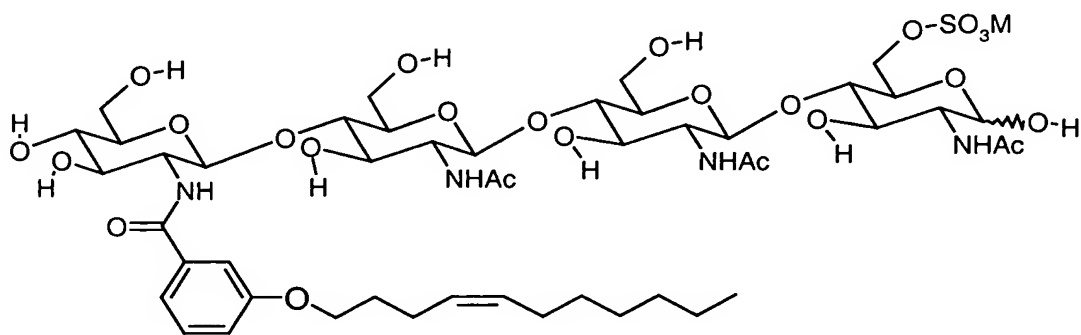
in which

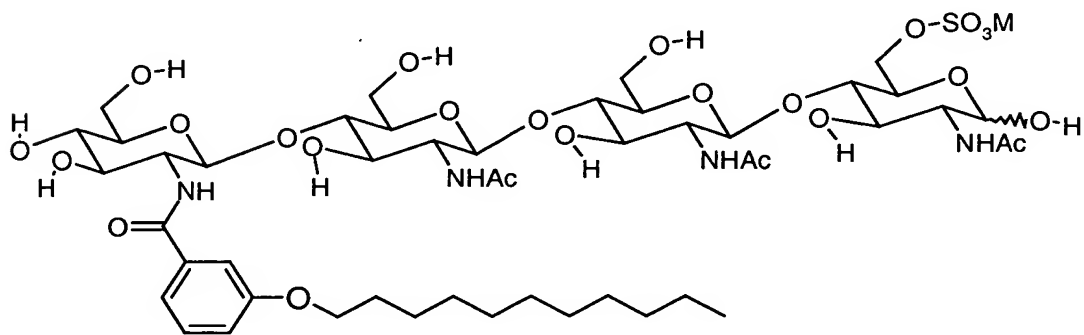
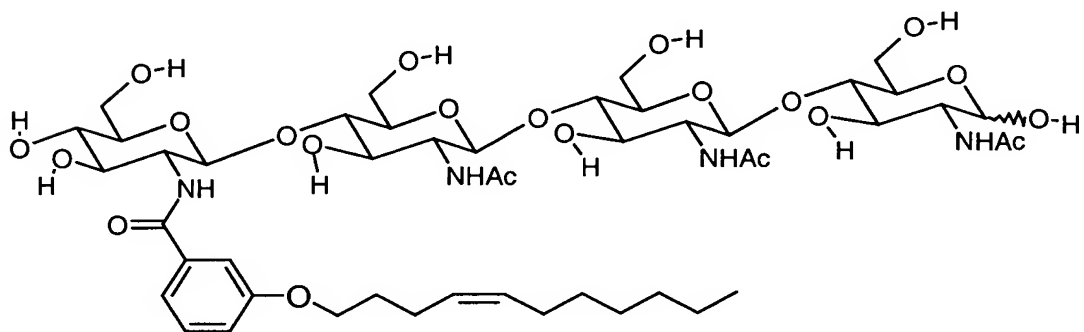
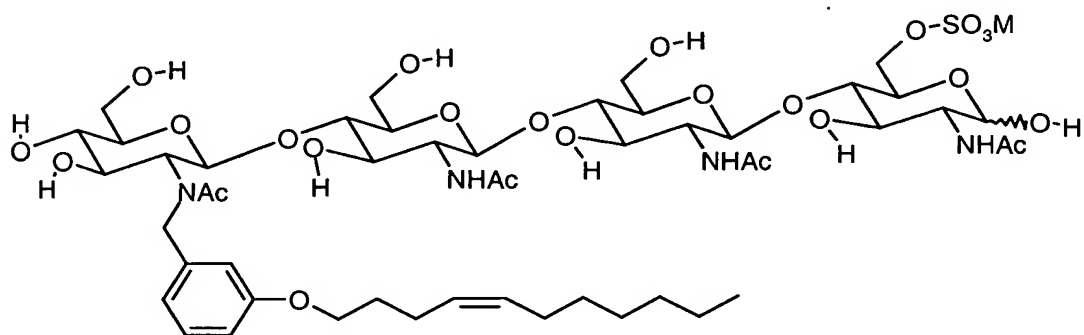
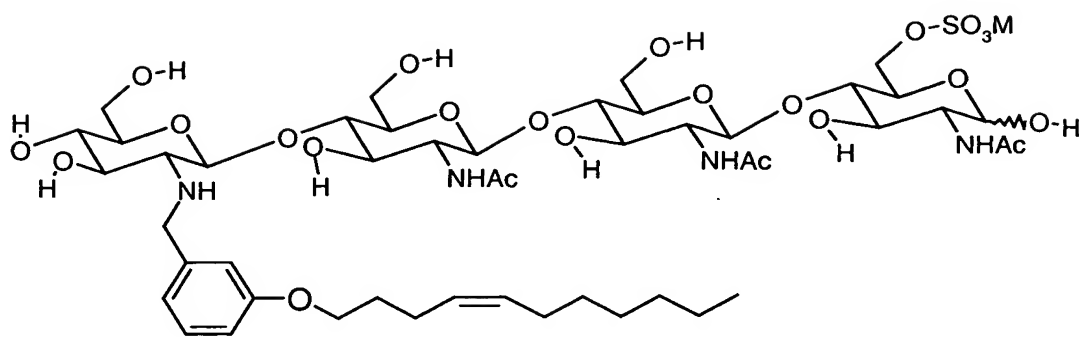
- ▶  $m = 1$  to  $12$
- ▶  $p = 0$  to  $11$
- ▶  $q = 6$  to  $14$

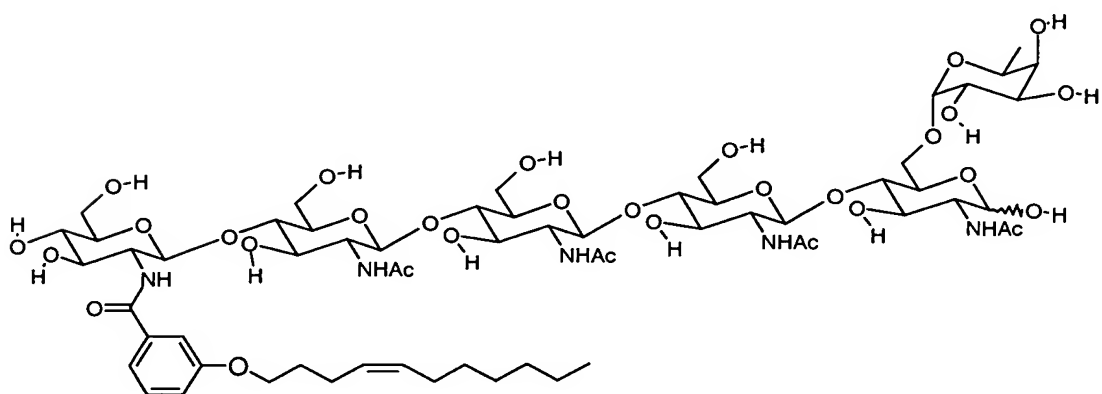
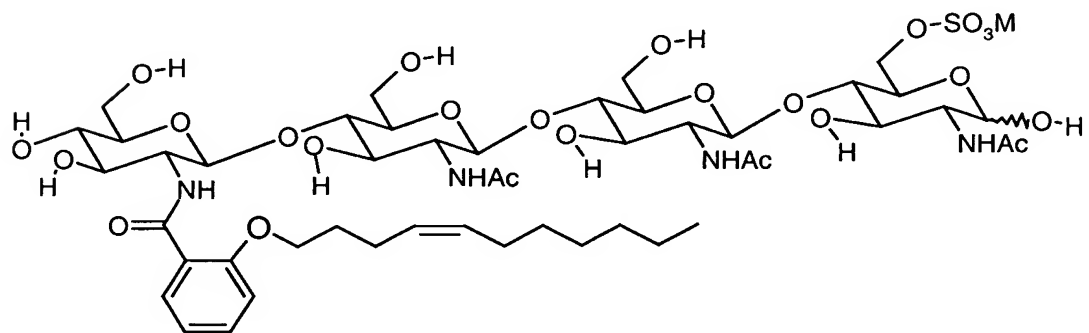
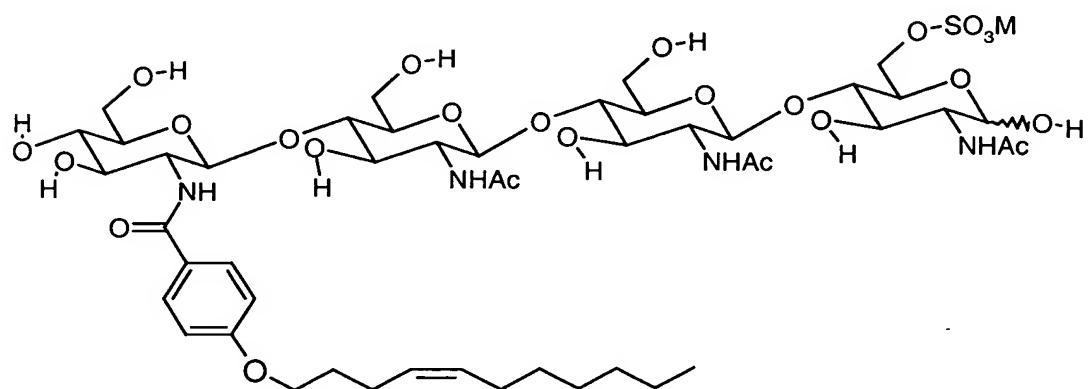
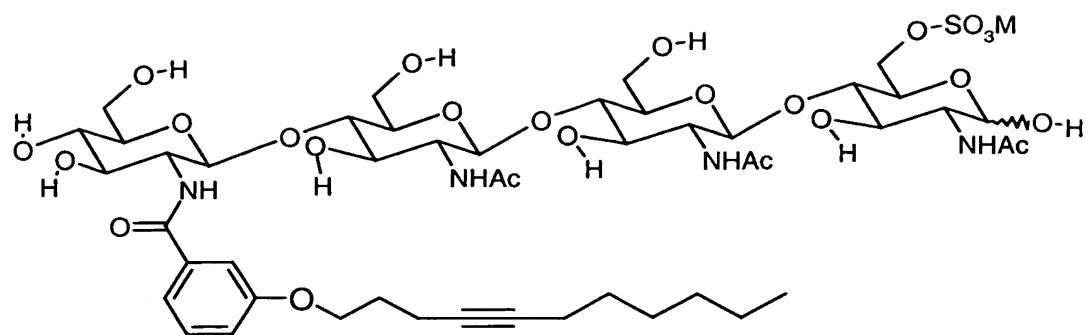
with  $m+p \leq 12$  and  $m+p \geq 4$ ;

46. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, for which D represents a linear hydrocarbon-based chain containing 11 carbon atoms, which is saturated, or unsaturated between carbon atoms 4 and 5.

47. (Currently amended) The compound as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, corresponding to one of the following formulae:







in which, when it is present, M represents a cation chosen from  $H^+$ ,  $Li^+$ ,  $Na^+$ ,  $K^+$  and  $(C_{1-8}alkyl)_4N^+$ .

48. (Currently amended) The use of a compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 47~~ claim 1, as a nodulation factor for a plant.

49. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 48, characterized in that said plant is a legume.

50. (Original) The use as claimed in claim 49, characterized in that said legume is soybean, pea, horse bean, groundnut, bean, lupin, alfalfa or clover.

51. (Currently amended) The use of a compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 47~~ claim 1, as a plant growth stimulation factor

52. (Currently amended) A process for treating seeds, comprising the application, alone or as a combination with other active molecules, of one or more compound(s) as defined in ~~any one of claims 1 to 47~~ claim 1.